

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 9440 號十四百四十九第 日一初月三年四十續光

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11TH, 1888.

三月十一日

號一十月四英港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

April 10, THIMER, British steamer, 1,671, T. F. Creasy, Yokohama 1st April, Mails and General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

April 10, DUCAN, British steamer 2,032 P. W., use, Shanghai 7th April, Mails and General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

April 10, BESALDER, British steamer, 1,332 R. W. Thomas, Saigon 6th April, Rice—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

April 10, DARDAN, British steamer, 1,535 T. Purdy, Liverpool 23rd February, and Singapore 4th April, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.

April 10, GRENALLOCH, British steamer, 1,419, Coombes, Nagasaki 6th April, Coal—JARDINE, MATTHESON & CO.

April 10, STUB, British steamer, 1,676, James Purdy, Bombay 24th March, General—P. & O. S. N. Co.

April 10, VOL, German gunboat, Jaeschke, Shanghai 16th April.

April 10, ESTOR, British gunboat, R. Yorke Smith, Shanghai 4th April.

April 10, DAELA, British steamer, 536 C. Nelson, Haiphong 7th April, General—CHIENNESE.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE
10TH APRIL.

Kumamoto-maru, Jap. str., for Kuchinotzu. Dubrov, German str., for Singapore. Menzies, British str., for Singapore. Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai. Star Queen, British bark, for Mantang.

DEPARTURES.

April 10, GLUCKSBURG, German steamer, for Amoy.

April 10, ABERGELDIE, British str., for Shanghai.

April 10, GREENLYON, British str., for Shanghai.

April 10, MOSSER, British steamer, for Yokohama.

April 10, TRITOS, German str., for Saigon.

April 10, FUSHUN, Chinese str., for Shanghai.

April 10, ZAFIRO, British str., for Manila.

April 10, DURBY, German str., for Singapore.

April 10, MENMUI, British str., for Australia.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Thibet, str., from Yokohama—Miss A. G. McGregor, Miss Taylor, Mrs. Yamaguchi, Mr. Kulu, 2 children, and infant, Mrs. Harvey and 3 children, Dr. Harvey, R. N. Staff Paymaster, C. Cole, R. N., Lieut. W. O. Thorburn, Dr. Parker, Mrs. Parker, Able Bodied Seaman, Captain T. H. Morris, Able Bodied Seaman, Midshipman Mizunori Hechiba, J. Wright, T. S. Niizumi, Lizard and Milsted, and 3 Chinese.

Per Dardana, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mr. Knobling, and 186 Chinese from Singapore.

Per Decon, str., from Shanghai—For Hongkong—Messrs. E. Elias, M. C. Nickels, W. P. McLean, S. E. Gray and native servant, E. A. Haworth, and Mr. Stroh, For Singapore—Mr. G. T. Harvey and native servant, Mr. G. T. Harvey, and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Clark and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Barnes and son, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Clark and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Balles and child, Messrs. J. McG. Brown and R. Hough.

REPORTS.

H.M.S. Esopus, from Shanghai 4th April, reports had strong N. and N.E. winds, with thick weather, much rain, thunder and lightning nearly the whole day down.

The British steamer *Dafra*, from Haiphong 7th April, reports had light S.E. winds and fine weather in the Tonquin Gulf; from Hainan Head to port variable winds and squally rainy weather.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING.

ABRIVIA.

22. W. de V. de Vries, str., from Hankow.

22. Iahong, British str., from Ningpo.

22. Taik, British steamer, from Tientsin.

22. Meidoo, Chinese str., from Hongkong.

22. Vladivostok, Russian str., from Nagasaki.

22. Kiang-teen, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

22. Peiki, British steamer, from Hankow.

22. Nanjing, British str., from Foochow.

22. Wissner, German str., from Nagasaki.

22. Peiki, British str., from Ningpo.

22. Star Mail, British str., from Tientsin.

22. Glenora, British str., from London.

22. Iohang, British str., from Ningpo.

22. Natal, French str., from Kolo.

22. Taiwo, British str., from Hankow.

22. Pao Hua, British str., from Hankow.

22. Ing, German str., from Nagasaki.

22. Fushun, Chinese str., from Hongkong.

22. Fushun, British str., from Tientsin.

22. Chang-chen, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

22. Kiang-teen, Chinese str., from Hankow.

22. Tungchow, British str., from Tientsin.

22. Woosung, British str., put back.

22. Abyssinia, British str., from Kolo.

APRIL.

1. Hae-chin, Chinese steamer, from Tientsin.

1. Claymore, British str., from Japan.

1. Wolf, German g.b., from Nagasaki.

1. Mierstein, German str., from Nagasaki.

1. Fushun, Chinese str., from Ningpo.

1. Ngankin, British str., for Hankow.

1. Peking, British str., for Hongkong.

1. Pao-chu, Chinese str., for Cheloo.

1. Sin Nanzing, British str., for Cheloo.

1. Cheloo, British str., for Tientsin.

1. Leopold, British str., for Ningpo.

1. Hsing-chien, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

1. Tungchow, British str., for Kobe.

1. Yuen Wo, British str., for Hankow.

1. Taik, British str., for Tientsin.

1. Kiang-teen, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

1. Satellite, British cov., for Target Practice.

1. Satsuma, Japanese str., for Japan.

1. S. do V. de Vries, British str., for Hankow.

1. Haig, Chinese str., for Tientsin.

1. Tungchow, British str., for Kobe.

1. Yuen Wo, British str., for Hankow.

1. Lojang, British str., for Ningpo.

1. Kiang-teen, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

1. Iago, German steamer, for Nagasaki.

1. Glendallach, British str., for Nagasaki.

1. Fairchild, British str., for Nagasaki.

1. Kiang-teen, French str., for Hongkong.

1. Kiang-teen, Chinese str., for Ningpo.

1. Pekin, British str., for Hankow.

1. Taiwo, British str., for Hankow.

1. Nanjing, British str., for Foochow.

1. Pao Hua, British str., for Hankow.

1. Fushun, Chinese str., for Swatow.

1. Tungchow, British str., for Tientsin.

NOTICE OF FIRM.

NOTICE.

M. GEORGE DIXWELL FEARON was admitted a PARTNER in our FIRM on the 1st January, 1888. DEACON & CO. Canton, 2nd April, 1888. [1670]

INTIMATIONS.

STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

ACCUMULATED FUNDS £ 6,696,425

ANNUAL INCOME £ 900,000

SUNS ASSURED £ 2,500,000

CLAIMS PAID £ 2,000,000

REGISTERED OFFICE, 40, THREADNEARE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLOMBIA.

THE STANDARD has been established for 10 years, and its Invested Funds, which the last year were £1,000,000, are now £2,000,000.

The Company's different Societies of Assurance may be obtained on application to the Company.

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905-91, 1888.

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from Tientsin, of course, would be at a lower tariff, must be added the Russian limit price on all telegraphic messages, and the amount levied will be paid to Russia also the further full charge for the remainder of transmission over the European lines connecting with Russia & China.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The Chinese Times of the 24th March has a reply to what we said on this subject, and thus avoids the opportunity of again referring to it. "It is well known," says the Chinese paper, "that 'Kinchia' is the Chinese name for the Amur, and that the Chinese Government has refused to permit Chinese lines to connect with the Russian system unless upon conditions which will conform to the engagements existing between the Russian Government and the Great Northern Telegraph Company? I am willing to believe—*with some misgivings*, of which I dare not speak—*that* a Chinese Government, so far removed from any idea of personal honour, could make such a request. The question is, then, what are the Russian obligations to the Great Northern Company? What they may be, but a promise or undertaking that nobody else should be allowed to land cables at Whalstock, or it may be at any place on the whole Eastern coast of Siberia? It cannot be that Russia will act in connection with Chinese lines, without having far removed from that coast, that coast is self evident."

Could it then be that Russia is bent to keep up the same feudal charges for telegrams from any place on the whole Mongolian frontier as those which are levied for telegrams from the Eastern coast of Siberia? This is almost, or altogether impossible since there is such a thing as exists as the International Telegraph Office, which gives the right to send to the Chinese that its members in its behalf may have assured the Cable Company that it would protect their interests as long as this could be done, and that is until China signs the International Convention, and then it is possible, if an enquiry *not strictly formal* is effected, it will be verily that the native Russian officials are greatly interested in the preservation of the Amur, and that they will do all they can to keep it so.

We greatly wish to direct attention to this, for the attention of one of the high Chinese Officials may throw us hither to those points, as we have a strong opinion that the engagements between Russia and the Cable Company are held up by the latter at a severe cost, for it is difficult to look at, but which will fail to give up Chinese lines to the proper slot, and which will be compelled to pay a heavy toll.

It is the author's opinion from her telegrams that the Chinese would be diminished by the large tariff charges for messages via Khinkia is certainly an error; it will however increased since the bulk of the Chinese-European traffic would pass via Siberia, which is now as we know, going south. The Chinese Times says that the rates were quoted for "telegraphic messages, but this was not the case, as the Chinese lines were taken from the hot International Telegraph Convention. There is a vast difference between the two, "telegraph" means in place to place within the country concerned, and rates of course fixed by the country itself, but "terminal" means telegrams from any place in the world terminating in the country concerned, these rates are just transit rates, and what is still more to the point, no money is ever exacted for the corresponding terminal rates.

The Chinese Times says that if the Chinese lines are joined at Hangchow, Hubares or Kiechow, the same tariff rates as paid by the Great Northern Company will be charged, but these places cannot be taken indiscriminately; the great point, as we thought, was that Kinchia had to be left out, is that Kinchia lies under the Telegraphic zone of Hangchow, etc. From Hangchow the rate could be 100 cents, just as it is from Kiechow, and from Kiechow from Kiechow. It is the Kiechow line only that has the real competitive power, being "a short cut." Allowing, for the sake of argument, that Russia would take the transits from Kiechow above the corresponding terminal rates, in accordance with the transit rates paid by the cable companies via Whalstock, that this allowing another similar anomaly, then it stands thus:—

From Whalstock transit 3 francs,

versus terminal 1 1/2 cents

versus terminal 1 1/2 cents

which is an increase on the total charge per word of 21 centimes or 5 cents only.

In France we quoted and paid our eight, and it is the same in Germany, the Chinese Times should say that we have no thought of the charge for further transmission from Russia. We have done so, and surely who cares to look over the Telegraph Convention last issued will find that we are right. We have carefully looked into existing rates for Germany, England, &c. Nor do we think 50 cents per word from China to Kiechow an inadequate rate. For we have greatly reduced the Chinese tariff, and still find the rate from China to the most northern place in Mongolia, in fact to the Siberian frontier, is 60 cents per word. And not then 50 cents be very advantageous with the major part of the International Telegraph traffic passing over the lines? As to the inference that we and the Shanghai community in general should labour under the illusion that the Chinese Government is aiming at getting clear telegrams purely for its own purposes, we have not met any that we indulge in such vain hope.

We take a realistic view, by which we mean that China's capacity lies in cheap telegraphy, which will raise her international telegraphic revenue from nothing to a considerable amount, and mightily benefit her intercourse with Western countries, and this being so, China is naturally the champion which must free our commercial world from the heavy burden of the "two dollar rate."

THE LAST OF THE LI.

The fine royal walled enclosure or citadel of Hanoi, once the seat of the Li dynasty, Tonquin, which ceased to reign in 1759, is now almost destroyed, and is given over entirely to large barracks, and buildings appertaining to the French army of occupation. Since the Nguyen dynasty of Hué has been recognised by China as rulers over the whole of the Tonquin-Annam kingdom, Hanoi has nothing more than the seat of a Tongdu or Governor-General, now, for administrative purposes changed to a French line of Vicere. The old palaces and temples of the former court of the citadel, and the small residence of about a quarter of a mile in extent, the remains are bricked up, and the once royal halls are now the vulgar grottoes in which powder, bombs, and other dangerous explosives are stored. Consequently the public is not admitted. Not far from the palace is a clump of bamboos, and which stands one of the noblest specimens of the species, and the trunk is about 10 feet in diameter, this tree exists.

The erection of which has been taken root in the usual way, and has moreover been so guided, and encouraged that they form the most bizarre, quaint, and serpentine of shapes, and cover over fifty square feet in every direction. Perhaps there are a hundred different roots, all intertwining and interlacing each other in such a manner that a sort of natural arbor is formed, through which the spreading branches afford sufficient shade for a regular grove of trees. Beneath the boughs is a small thatched hut or group of huts of the ordinary Annamite type, and in the dark recesses are the remains of what was once a tall, perfectly fine temple. During the recent war the greater part of this group of buildings, together with all play rooms, was destroyed or damaged by the French troops, and gods and other sacred things were thrown into the jungle, and among the rearing shrubs. The place was formerly a nunnery, the nuns, of course, were scattered, but what precise amount of violence or outrage they suffered, if any, is not on record.

When peace and tranquillity were being restored around Hanoi, it was observed that an aged crew was daily seen groping her way among the rocks, and was evidently an old man or a crone of years. It was also noticed that he usually collected all the broken images and other trifles which had been taken from the temples, and dragged them back with infinite pains, and to the sheltered remains of her former convent. One day a bold soldier, probably under the influence of liquor, threatened to kill her, and the Colonel's attention was directed to the old woman. The people round about, who were mostly French, asked her herself, on her modesty, and it was a fact that she was the last survivor of the Li or Li dynasty, whose representative fled to China in 1759. At first it was thought that the poor old woman was mad, but the unknown Colonel, whose name deserves to be honoured in connection with the affair, torched his old lady's coarse and persistent holding on amid such rough surroundings to the robes of her fallen ancestors, gave orders that the enclosures should no longer

be entered without permission, and had inquiry instituted into the truth of her statements with a view to afflicting her with punishment. She was sent to the Colonial Department, in Tonquin, an enthusiastic archaeologist and a thorough Annamite scholar, was charged with the duty of ascertaining the exact truth to his profession, which rested upon nothing but his own eager recitations and the half-contumacious admissions of the surrounding villagers. He found that the old woman had often failed to elicit the slightest detail, such as would justify an orbit. The old princess depends upon the previous charity of visitors and rests for protection upon a panel screen pasted upon her brazier. *Defense d'autre les autorise de faire frite* (—vielle femme).

After inspecting the wonderful bazaar, we could suppose that the old woman had a secret, and the Chinese Government is not restrained from asking what it is. Who could she make the request? The question is, then, what are the Russian obligations to the Great Northern Company? What they may be, but a promise or undertaking that nobody else should be allowed to land cables at Whalstock, or it may be at any place on the whole Eastern coast of Siberia? It cannot be that Russia will act in connection with Chinese lines, without having far removed from that coast, that coast is self evident.

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Allowing, for the sake of argument, that Russia would take the transits from Kiechow above the corresponding terminal rates, in accordance with the transit rates paid by the cable companies via Whalstock, that this allowing another similar anomaly, then it stands thus:—

N.C. Daily News:

THE WAYS OF WOLVES.

A correspondent of *Brent and Stewart* (New York), who has been writing on this subject, says:—The wolfishness of certain portions of that country are well known, and the author of this article, if it appears to him, may be about to fall into the trap set for him.

The French are quoted and quoted again, and it is the author's opinion that the Chinese Times should say that we have no thought of the charge for further transmission from Russia. We have done so, and surely who cares to look over the Telegraph Convention last issued will find that we are right. We have carefully looked into existing rates for Germany, England, &c. Nor do we think 50 cents per word from China to Kiechow an inadequate rate. For we have greatly reduced the Chinese tariff, and still find the rate from China to the most northern place in Mongolia, in fact to the Siberian frontier, is 60 cents per word. And not then 50 cents be very advantageous with the major part of the International Telegraph traffic passing over the lines? As to the inference that we and the Shanghai community in general should labour under the illusion that the Chinese Government is aiming at getting clear telegrams purely for its own purposes, we have not met any that we indulge in such vain hope.

We take a realistic view, by which we mean that China's capacity lies in cheap telegraphy, which will raise her international telegraphic revenue from nothing to a considerable amount, and mightily benefit her intercourse with Western countries, and this being so, China is naturally the champion which must free our commercial world from the heavy burden of the "two dollar rate."

THE DAILY PRESS, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11TH, 1888.

A correspondent of *Brent and Stewart* (New York), who has been writing on this subject, says:—The wolfishness of certain portions of that country are well known, and the author of this article, if it appears to him, may be about to fall into the trap set for him.

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The French are quoted and quoted again, and it is the author's opinion that the Chinese Times should say that we have no thought of the charge for further transmission from Russia. We have done so, and surely who cares to look over the Telegraph Convention last issued will find that we are right. We have carefully looked into existing rates for Germany, England, &c. Nor do we think 50 cents per word from China to Kiechow an inadequate rate. For we have greatly reduced the Chinese tariff, and still find the rate from China to the most northern place in Mongolia, in fact to the Siberian frontier, is 60 cents per word. And not then 50 cents be very advantageous with the major part of the International Telegraph traffic passing over the lines? As to the inference that we and the Shanghai community in general should labour under the illusion that the Chinese Government is aiming at getting clear telegrams purely for its own purposes, we have not met any that we indulge in such vain hope.

We take a realistic view, by which we mean that China's capacity lies in cheap telegraphy, which will raise her international telegraphic revenue from nothing to a considerable amount, and mightily benefit her intercourse with Western countries, and this being so, China is naturally the champion which must free our commercial world from the heavy burden of the "two dollar rate."

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